



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 32D ARMY AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND
111 SLATER ROAD
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916

AFVL-CG

20 April 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Memorial Day Holiday Risk Management

1. Each year the Army loses nearly 140 Soldiers to off duty accidental fatalities, many of which occur during the summer period that begins with the Memorial Day weekend. Tragically, this command has experienced losses within our ranks that are included in that number. What I find most disturbing is that these fatalities are preventable. By anticipating risks and applying precautions, Soldiers and their families can enjoy accident-free off-duty time.

2. I need leaders to be engaged and talk to Soldiers about the common risks they face while away from work. Most of the risks are associated with driving. There are no surprises – alcohol abuse, failure to wear seat belts, speeding while driving privately owned vehicles and motorcycles, driving while fatigued or distracted; these are the killers. On the water the risks are drinking and swimming in areas without lifeguards. A recent trend across the Army is a rise in pedestrian fatalities. Too drunk to drive means too drunk to walk. Like leaders, engaged battle buddies make a difference.

3. My goal for this command is to have **zero** accidents that result in a fatality or permanent disability. Be smart, be safe this weekend (and every weekend), and we can achieve this goal.

4. I join CSM Ross in thanking all of the Soldiers, Families and civilians of this command for everything you do to keep our country safe. Remember to take time this weekend to honor the sacrifices of those who gave everything to guarantee the freedoms we enjoy.

SWIFT AND SURE!


JOHN G. ROSSI
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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